1	2	3	4	5
3	21-Apr-07	5.77	6.07	0.30
4	28-Apr-07	5.66	6.01	0.35
5	05-May-07	5.44	5.74	0.30
6	12-May-07	5.27	5.62	0.35
7	19-May-07	5.06	5.30	0.25
8	26-May-07	4.85	5.15	0.30
9	02-Jun-07	4.80	5.09	0.29
10	09-Jun-07	4.28	4.28	0.00

Production and pricing of gas

†1009. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a gap between demand and supply of gas in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that only licensed Government institutions have been permitted to produce gas in the country;

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government have promised to the producers that the sale price of gas will be fixed on the basis of market requirement; and

(e) if so, the reasons for neglecting the interests of consumers by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Report of the Working Group on Petroleum & Natural Gas for the Eleventh Plan has estimated a total demand of 179.17 Million Standard Cubic Metres Per Day (MMSCMD) for the year 2007-08. The gas availability for the year 2006-07 was about 96 MMSCMD, including about 23 MMSCMD of imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

(c) Under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), license for exploration/ production is awarded through International Competitive Bidding System. National Oil Companies (NOCs) are required to compete on an equal footing with other Private and International Companies to secure exploration licenses.

(d) and (e) In terms of the provisions of Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), the operator has the freedom to market gas to be produced from contract area in the domestic market. However, the pricing formula or the basis requires approval of the Government. Further, the contractor is required to discover the market price of gas on the basis of competitive arms length principle.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.